

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BUDAPE 00929 230837Z  
ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07  
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06  
OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 MED-03 DODE-00 HEW-06 L-03  
H-02 AGRE-00 SCSE-00 /083 W  
-----230843Z 051301 /17

P R 230712Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0929  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 0929

E O 11652: NA  
TAGS: SNAR HU  
SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON DECRIMINALIZATION  
OF MARIHUANA

REF : STATE 57902

1. HUNGARY IS A PARTY TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON NARCOTICS OF 1961 AND ACCORDINGLY CONSIDERS MARIHUANA TO BE A NARCOTIC SUBSTANCE.

2. SECTION 198 OF HUNGARIAN CRIMINAL CODE PROVIDES:

(1) WHOEVER, BY INFRINGING OR EVADING THE REGULATIONS OF THE AUTHORITIES, MAKES, PROCURES, KEEPS, PUTS INTO CIRCULATION, BRINGS INTO, TAKES OUT OF, OR CARRIES THROUGH THE TERRITORY OF THE COUNTRY, A DRUG SUITABLE FOR PATHOLOGICAL ENJOYMENT, SHALL BE PUNISHED BY LOSS OF LIBERTY FROM ONE TO FIVE YEARS.

(2) THE PUNISHMENT SHALL BE LOSS OF LIBERTY FROM TWO TO EIGHT YEARS IF THE CRIME WAS COMMITTED:

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BUDAPE 00929 230837Z

- (A) PROFESSIONALLY,
- (B) BY A RECIDIVIST,
- (C) IN CRIMINAL PARTNERSHIP, OR
- (D) WITH DRUGS IN SIGNIFICANT QUANTITY OR VALUE.

(3) WHOEVER CARRIES OUT AN ACT OF PREPARATION FOR DRUG ABUSE, SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH LOSS OF LIBERTY UP

TO SIX MONTHS.

(4) THE DRUGS WITH WHICH THE DRUG ABUSE HAS BEEN COMMITTED, SHALL BE CONFISCATED. CONFISCATION SHALL TAKE PLACE EVEN IF THE DRUG IS NOT THE PROPERTY OF THE PERPETRATOR.

3. ACCORDING TO LASZLO MERESZ, CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT, HEAD OFFICE OF HUNGARIAN CUSTOMS AND EXCISES, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE CUSTOMS OFFICIAL FOR NARCOTICS MATTERS, MARIHUANA IS "A DRUG SUITABLE FOR PATHOLOGICAL ENJOYMENT," AND AS SUCH FALLS UNDER SECTION 198 OF CRIMINAL CODE. MERESZ STATES LAW IS ENFORCED IN HUNGARY AND PENALTIES APPLIED AS STATED THEREIN. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT INCIDENCE OF MARIHUANA USE IN HUNGARY IS LOW AND HENCE SO ARE ARRESTS AND PROSECUTIONS.

4. IN RECENT CASE INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO WAS CONVICTED FOR POSSESSION OF ABOUT FOUR GRAMS OF HASHISH WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY UNKNOWNINGLY BROUGHT INTO HUNGARY, AMERICAN WAS SENTENCED TO SUSPENDED EIGHT MONTHS IMPRISONMENT AND RELEASED ON PROBATION. AN AMERICAN ARRESTED IN 1975 RECEIVED SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT AND A 10,000-FORINT (\$500) FOR ILLEGAL IMPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION TO FRIENDS OF ABOUT 300 GRAMS MARIHUANA.  
MUDD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW, MARIJUANA, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BUDAPE00929  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770099-0235  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BUDAPEST  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770332/aaaabbqn.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 1faaaab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SNM  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 57902  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3028402  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIHUANA  
**TAGS:** SNAR, HU, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1faaaab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009